IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated. A complete set of the claims is included below, as well as the current status of each claim. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-15 (Canceled)

16. (Allowed) A method for editing a photo album page amongst a collection of a plurality of photo album pages, comprising:

displaying, in a first window on a computer screen, a first photo album page from among the plurality of photo album pages, wherein said first photo album page in said first window includes a group of photos;

upon receipt of a user command, automatically producing a second photo album page based on said first photo album page and displaying, in a second window next to said first window on said computer screen, said second photo album page for side by side comparison of said first photo album page and said second photo album page, said second photo album page in said second window also including said group of photos, each of said first and second photo album pages having a layout and being capable of being independently modified by said user through manipulation of graphical elements in said first or second window on said computer screen, wherein said automatically producing and displaying occurs without direct user intervention by said user beyond provision of said user command;

receiving first user input in one of said first or second window on said computer screen that modifies part of either said first or second photo album page, wherein said modification enables said user to contrast said first and second photo album pages; and

receiving second user input that selects one of said first and second photo album pages for inclusion in said plurality of photo album pages.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Allowed) The method of claim 16, wherein said first photo album page includes a background pattern and text.

19. (Allowed) The method of claim 18, wherein said receiving first user input comprises receiving instructions by said user to change an aspect of a background pattern or a layout on one of said first and second photo album pages.

20. (Allowed) The method of claim 16, wherein said first and second photo album pages are word processor pages.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Allowed) The method of claim 16, further comprising deleting a photo album page that has not been selected.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a photo album page, comprising:

opening a photo album page on a computer screen;

assigning a background to said photo album page;

selecting a layout configuration for said photo album page, said layout configuration defining a number of photos to be included on said photo album page, aspect ratios of said photos, and positioning of said photos on said photo album page, wherein said selecting is based on a graphical user interface that enables user navigation of a hierarchical organization of a library of layout configurations based on a user specification of a total number of photos for said photo album page and a user specification of a first subset of said total number of photos having a landscape orientation and a second subset of said total number of photos having a portrait

orientationspecified by a user for said photo album page, said user specified total number of photos and said user specified first subset of said total number of photos having a landscape orientation and user specified second subset of said total number of photos having a portrait orientation being used to generate a graphical listing of thumbnail images representing a selectable subset of said library of layout configurations, said selectable subset of said library of layout configurations supporting only those layout configurations having said user specified total number of photos and said user specified first subset of said total number of photos having a landscape orientation and said user specified second subset of said total number of photos having a portrait orientation; and

placing a plurality of photos on said photo album page at locations defined by said selected layout configuration.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said opening comprises opening a blank page.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising selecting said background from a library of backgrounds that are represented by thumbnail images.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said assigning comprises assigning a background image to said photo album page.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said assigning comprises assigning one of a solid color, blended color, textured, patterned, thematic or mosaic background to said photo album page.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said selecting comprises selecting a layout configuration that includes placeholders for photo images.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said layout configuration further defines sizes and positions of text entries.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said placing comprises dragging and dropping a photo onto said photo album page.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said placing comprises copying and pasting a photo onto said photo album page.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said placing comprises selecting a group of images and automatically associating said group of images with a plurality of locations on said photo album page with a matching of image formats to image placeholder formats.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising automatically adjusting dimensions of a frame border and a photo relative to each other.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein said layout configuration further defines size and orientation for said photos.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A photo album page generating method, comprising:

   receiving a user specification of a total number of photos to be displayed on a photo album page;

receiving a user specification of a first subset of said total number of photos having a landscape orientation and a second subset of said total number of photos having a portrait orientation;

identifying those layout configurations in a library of layout configurations that contain said user specified total number of photos and said user specified first subset of said total number of photos having a landscape orientation and said user specified second subset of said total number of photos having a portrait orientation, wherein said library of layout configurations contains layout configurations with different total numbers of photos and different combinations of landscape and portrait oriented photos; and

displaying, in a graphical user interface, a plurality of thumbnail images representative of only said identified layout configurations, wherein said displayed thumbnail images are individually selectable by a user to apply a pre-defined photo layout onto a photo album page.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein a layout configuration specifies a placement of photos and an aspect ratio of said photos.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein a thumbnail image shows a placement of photos and an aspect ratio of said photos.